Southern/Eastern Region and allocation from unallocated quota of NTPC stations in Eastern Region.

Cooperation in Nuclear Power

2942. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established co-operation with any country in the field of nuclear power;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the programmes drawn up by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the provisions of the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) and the Supplement to the IGA signed between the Governments of India and the Russian Federation, the Government of India has accorded financial sanction for the setting up of 2x1000 VVER type nuclear power project at Kundankulam in Radhapuram Taluk, Tamil Nadu at an estimated cost of Rs. 13,171 crore. The Government of Russian Federation is extending a State credit upto 2600 Million US Dollars to cover 85% of the expenses of the scope of works of the Russian organisations in the project. The balance 15% as well as the expenses of the scope of works of the Indian organisations in the project is borne by the Indian side. The work on the project has been started with the first pour of concrete on March 31, 2002. The scheduled dates of completion of the project for commencing commercial operation are December 2007 and December 2008 for the first and second units, respectively.

Power generation projects using nuclear fuel

† 2943. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power generation projects arc in operation in the country using nuclear fuel;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.